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~~Top Secret~~

YUGOSLAVIA: New Demonstrations Flare Up

At least 50,000 angry workers and students, calling for the resignation of local leaders, demonstrated in Montenegro republic yesterday. According to Western press reports, security was heavy but the demonstrations were peaceful. Montenegrin leaders have refused to resign but agreed to meet tomorrow to consider protesters' demands. They held firm against similar demands from demonstrators supporting Serbian Party leader Milosevic in October [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The apparently spontaneous demonstration, probably sparked by economic grievances, is among the most serious protest in Yugoslavia since Federal authorities threatened unspecified emergency measures against pro-Serbian protesters in October. It may presage a new wave of protests against stalled economic and political reforms. Some protesters praised Milosevic, but his involvement is not clear. Clashes between protesters and security forces are likely and may lead to emergency measures like curfews and restrictions on assembly. [REDACTED]

YUGOSLAVIA: Ethnic Strife Coloring Foreign Policy

Belgrade's relations with other countries are increasingly affected by its domestic ethnic problems and by the activities of emigre groups. Yugoslavia for the first time in recent years has protested State Department contacts with US-based Croatian emigres. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Yugoslavia has always been quick to react to emigre activities, but Belgrade apparently believes that its growing domestic ethnic tensions and weakened central leadership leave it more vulnerable to emigre-supported human rights protests. It also fears, probably correctly, emigre terrorism; there were several bombings of Yugoslav facilities in the West last year. Belgrade may increase its harassment of emigres in the US and its protests to and use of disinformation with US officials. It may also hold US objectives for cooperation in counterterrorism hostage to getting more US help in monitoring emigres. [REDACTED]